

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: Melanie Turner**

**Complaint No. 2009-5**

**ORDER**

This matter having been heard before the Rhode Island Ethics Commission on January 12, 2010 pursuant to Commission Regulation 1011, and the Commission having considered the Complaint herein, the arguments of both parties, and the proposed Informal Resolution and Settlement, which is incorporated by reference herein, it is hereby

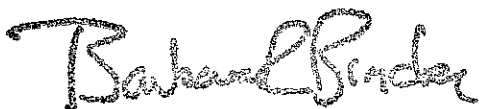
**ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED**

THAT, the Commission approves the Informal Resolution and Settlement as submitted; and

THAT, the Commission incorporates by reference herein its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as those set forth in the Informal Resolution and Settlement; and

THAT, the Respondent, is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). The Respondent is required to pay said civil penalty, in full, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order.

Entered as an Order of this Commission,



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Barbara R. Binder  
Chairperson

Dated: January 15, 2010

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: Melanie Turner,  
Respondent**

**Complaint No. 2009-5**

**INFORMAL RESOLUTION AND SETTLEMENT**

The Respondent, Melanie Turner, and the Rhode Island Ethics Commission hereby agree to a resolution of the above-referenced matter as follows:

**A. FINDINGS OF FACT AND ADMISSIONS**

1. The Respondent was elected to the Johnston Town Council in November 2008 and has served in said capacity at all times hereto relevant.
2. As a municipal elected official, the Respondent was at all times hereto relevant subject to the financial disclosure mandate of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.
3. The Respondent did not file a 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement with the Ethics Commission on or before April 24, 2009, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.
4. After consultation with the Ethics Commission Staff, and prior to entering into the instant informal resolution and settlement, the Respondent filed a 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement with the Ethics Commission on December 10, 2009.
5. On December 10, 2009, the Respondent also voluntarily filed a supplemental, properly notarized 2007 Financial Disclosure Statement with the Ethics Commission
6. The Respondent acknowledges that she previously submitted a document to the Ethics Commission Staff via facsimile, purporting to establish that she had timely

filed her 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement with the Commission. The Respondent acknowledges that the document was neither timely filed nor properly notarized.

**B. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Commission finds that the Respondent, a member of the Johnston Town Council, was at all times hereto relevant a municipal elected official subject to the financial disclosure mandate of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

2. The Commission finds that the Respondent failed to file a timely 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement with the Commission, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

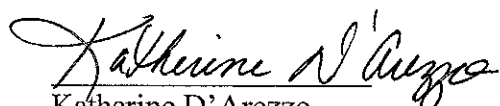
**C. SETTLEMENT**

Pursuant to the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of law, the parties hereby agree to the following:


1. The Respondent agrees that, pursuant to the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Prosecution will recommend, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-13(d), the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,250.00). The Respondent reserves the right to argue for a lesser penalty.

2. The above terms represent the full and complete Informal Resolution and Settlement for Complaint No. 2009-5.

Dated: 1/4/10

  
Katherine D'Arezzo  
Commission Prosecutor

Dated: 1-4-10

  
Melanie Turner  
Respondent